

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TEL AV 05946 310826Z

20

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 OMB-01

IO-13 EUR-12 /093 W

----- 049668

P R 310642Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2838

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 5946

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, EG, IS

SUBJECT: CABINET REVIEW OF INTERIM AGREEMENT

1. ON THE OCCASION OF THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTERIM AGREEMENT, THE CABINET DEVOTED LAST SUNDAY'S SESSION TO A REVIEW OF ITS FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION. IN HIS PRESENTATION FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON NOTED THAT NOTWITHSTANDING OCCASIONAL VIOLATIONS, EGYPT WAS ON THE WHOLE ABIDING BY ITS DIRECT COMMITMENTS. HOWEVER, HE CONTRASTED THIS ADHERENCE IN THE MILITARY AREA WITH ITS FAILURE TO LIVE UP TO THE COMMITMENTS IN THE POLITICAL AND PROPAGANDA SPHERE WHICH WERE GIVEN THROUGH THE US. ALLON DREW THE LESSON THAT IN THE FUTURE IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO INSURE A MORE METICULOUS FORMULATION OF POLITICAL COMMITMENTS AND TO PREDETERMINE MACHINERY FOR THE SUPERVISION OF THEIR IMPLEMENTATION. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE FOREIGN MINISTER ATTACHED PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO EGYPTIAN EFFORTS AT REHABILITATING THE SUEZ CANAL AND ITS TOWNS.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 TEL AV 05946 310826Z

2. WITH RESPECT TO COMMITMENTS UNDERTAKEN BY THE US

WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE AGREEMENT, ALLON SAID THAT THEY HAD BEEN OBSERVED EXCEPT FOR ONE INSTANCE --- THE US FAILURE TO VETO THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION TO HOLD A SPECIAL DEBATE WITH PLO PARTICIPATION.

2. ALLON NOTED THE ABSENCE OF AUTHORITATIVE RESPONSE FROM ANY OF ISRAEL'S NEIGHBORS TO HER OFFER TO NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT ENDING THE STATE OF WAR. HE INDICATED AWARENESS THAT EGYPT AND SYRIA WERE IN A DIFFICULT POLITICAL SITUATION REGARDING SUCH A MOVE AND THAT JORDAN, DESPITE ITS APPARENT GROWING INTEREST IN WHAT IS HAPPENING ON THE WEST BANK, STILL FORMALLY ADHERES TO THE RABAT CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS. HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE FOR JORDAN'S RE-ENTERING THE NEGOTIATING PICTURE REGARDING THE WEST BANK. ALLON REITERATED ISRAEL'S READINESS FOR THE RECONVENING OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE IN ITS ORIGINAL COMPOSITION.

4. DEFENSE MINISTER SHIMON PERES OPINED THAT ISRAEL HAD ACTED CORRECTLY IN SIGNING THE AGREEMENT IN SEPTEMBER 1975 JUST AS IT HAD BEEN JUSTIFIED IN REFUSING TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT THE PREVIOUS MARCH. HE SAW THE MAJOR PHENOMENON IN EGYPT AS ITS EFFORTS IN RECONSTRUCTION AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT. PERES SUGGESTED THAT THE SYRIANS OUGHT TO BE ENCOURAGED TO TURN IN THE SAME DIRECTION.

5. SUMMING UP THE DISCUSSION, PRIME MINISTER RABIN SAID THAT ANY REVIEW OF THE INTERIM AGREEMENT SHOULD BEAR IN MIND WHAT ALTERNATIVES ISRAEL FACED IN THE PERIOD LEADING UP TO THE AGREEMENT. RABIN STRESSED THAT THE AGREEMENT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IN THE LIGHT OF WHETHER IT PROMOTED PEACE, REDUCED THE DANGER OF WAR, AND INSURED ISRAEL'S STRENGTH IN THE EVENT WAR WAS FORCED UPON HER. HE THOUGHT THE AGREEMENT STOOD UP WELL IN MEETING THIS TEST. RABIN, HOWEVER, SAID THAT A SHARP SHIFT TO PEACE WAS NOT YET DISCERNABLE. HE DWELT ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SYSTEM

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 TEL AV 05946 310826Z

OF RELATIONS WITH THE US IN CONNECTION WITH THE INTERIM AGREEMENT AND STRESSED THEIR POLITICAL IMPLICATION. IN GENERAL, RABIN'S SUMMATION WAS AN UPBEAT FINALE TO WHAT HAD BEEN A FAVORABLE SUMMARY OF THE AGREEMENT'S FIRST YEAR IN OPERATION.

6. IN A TELEVISION INTERVIEW FOLLOWING THE CABINET DISCUSSION, RABIN STATED THAT ISRAEL IS PRE-

PARED TO NEGOTIATE EITHER AN OVERALL PEACE WITH THE ARABS AT GENEVA OR AN END-OF-THE-STATE-OF-WAR AGREEMENTS WITH ITS NEIGHBORS. HE ALSO STATED ON TV THAT THE GENEVA NEGOTIATIONS WOULD HAVE TO BE IN TERMS OF THE ORIGINAL INVITATIONS ISSUED IN DECEMBER 1973. ADMITTING THE OCCURANCE OF EGYPTIAN VIOLATIONS OF THE INTERIM AGREEMENT, HE SAID THEY WERE OF "SECONDARY MILITARY SIGNIFICANCE." RABIN OBSERVED THAT "IT IS POSSIBLE THAT WE NEGLECTED TO TAKE THE APPROPRIATE STEPS WHEN A YEAR-AND-A-HALF AGO -- IN FACT, ACTUALLY MORE THAN TWO YEARS AGO -- THERE WERE THE FIRST REVELATIONS OF VIOLATION AND THAT WAS STILL BEFORE THE DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT. THE FACT THAT IN THE PAST WE DID NO TAKE THE APPROPRIATE ACTION DOES NOT OBLIGATE US TO PURRSUE THE SAME COURSE NOW -- AND IT MUST BE DEALT WITH. THERE MUST BE PERSISTENT STRIVING FOR RECTIFICATION OF THESE VIOLATIONS -- AND I BELIEVE WE SHALL DO SO. AFTER ALL, THE AGREEMENT WILL BE OBSERVED AS LONG AS EGYPT OBSERVES -- OR DESIRES TO OBSERVE -- IT IN PRINCIPLE, NAD IT IS BY BELIEF THAT NOW, AND FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE, EGYPT DOES SO DESIRE."

7. ON THE QUESTION OF SOVIET POLICY RABIN WAS SCATHING IN HIS DENUNCIATION OF SOVIET SUPPORT FOR EXTREMIST ARAB STATES AND TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS. HE STATED THAT "THE SOVIET UNION CAN PLAY A ROLE IN ESTABLISHING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, BUT TO DO SO SHE MUST CHANGE ITS APPROACH, ITS POLICY AND ITS ATTITUDE FROM WHAT THEY ARE TODAY."
TOON

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CABINET, MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976TELAV05946
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760329-1346
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976081/aaaaaahu.tel
Line Count: 145
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: harterdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 JAN 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 MAY 2004 by ReddocGW>; RELEASED <11 JAN 2005 by harterdg>; APPROVED <14 JAN 2005 by harterdg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CABINET REVIEW OF INTERIM AGREEMENT
TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, EG, IS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006